

keith@factorybuilt.com

cc

Subject

BLM Briefing for Arizona Strip Plan

Shari, Brian, Keith, Andy, Carlos,

BLM staff will be providing an overview of the Proposed Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument and Arizona Strip Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), which is set to be released in January 2007.

BLM received over 10,000 public comments on the draft RMP and EIS, which was published in November 2005. The Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument (NM) is co-managed by the BLM and National Park Service. This plan covers districts 1 and 2, and may affect many of your constituents.

Our Arizona Strip District Manager will be in town the morning of December 6 and would like to provide a briefing on the plan for you. I am looking at scheduling the briefing at the BLM office around 9 a.m. on Dec. 6. Are you interested in attending this briefing? Please let me know as soon as possible so I can finalize the arrangements.

FYI -- Because of the Arizona Strip's proximity to Utah, BLM has provided briefings for the Utah congressional delegation staffs of Matheson, Bennett and Hatch last week.

Joanie Losacco
Deputy State Director, Communications
Bureau of Land Management
One North Central Avenue, Ste. 800
Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-417-9405



"Sierra, Carlos \ (McCain\)"
<Carlos_Sierra@mccain.senate.gov>

11/22/2006 02:17 PM

To <Joanie_Losacco@blm.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject RE: BLM Briefing for Arizona Strip Plan

Sorry, I got other meetings that day.

-----Original Message-----

From: Joanie_Losacco@blm.gov [mailto:Joanie_Losacco@blm.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2006 8:44 AM
To: Jacobs, Andy (Kyl); Sierra, Carlos (McCain);
shari.farrington@mail.house.gov; brian.murray@mail.house.gov;
keith@factorybuilt.com
Subject: BLM Briefing for Arizona Strip Plan

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Bureau of Land Management

1020

December 7, 2006

Hi Carlos,

Attached is material from the briefing scheduled yesterday regarding the BLM Arizona Strip Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement. We anticipate the document will be published in January. Eventually there will be four Records of Decision issued: Vermilion Cliffs National Monument, Arizona Strip Field Office, and two for the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument (one for BLM and one for the National Park Service).

BLM and NPS managers have conducted briefings with the Utah Congressional staffs, special interest groups, and local officials. BLM will hold its regular quarterly congressional staff briefing in February, and will again cover the topic. In the meantime, if you have any questions, call me, or Diana Hawks, planning team leader, BLM Arizona Strip Office, 435-688-3266. Also, there is information on our website, including the DRAFT RMP, at http://www.blm.gov/az/LUP/strip/strip_plan.htm.

Happy Holidays!



Joanie Losacco
Deputy State Director, Communications
Bureau of Land Management
One North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-417-9504

BLM

www.blm.gov/az/



Sent attached copy of letter to the following:

Brian Murray
501 N Florence Street, Suite 102
Florence, Arizona 85222

Keith Alexander
1420 North First Avenue, Suite 100
Safford, Arizona 85546

Andy Jacobs
2200 East Camelback Road, Suite 120
Phoenix, Arizona 85016-3455

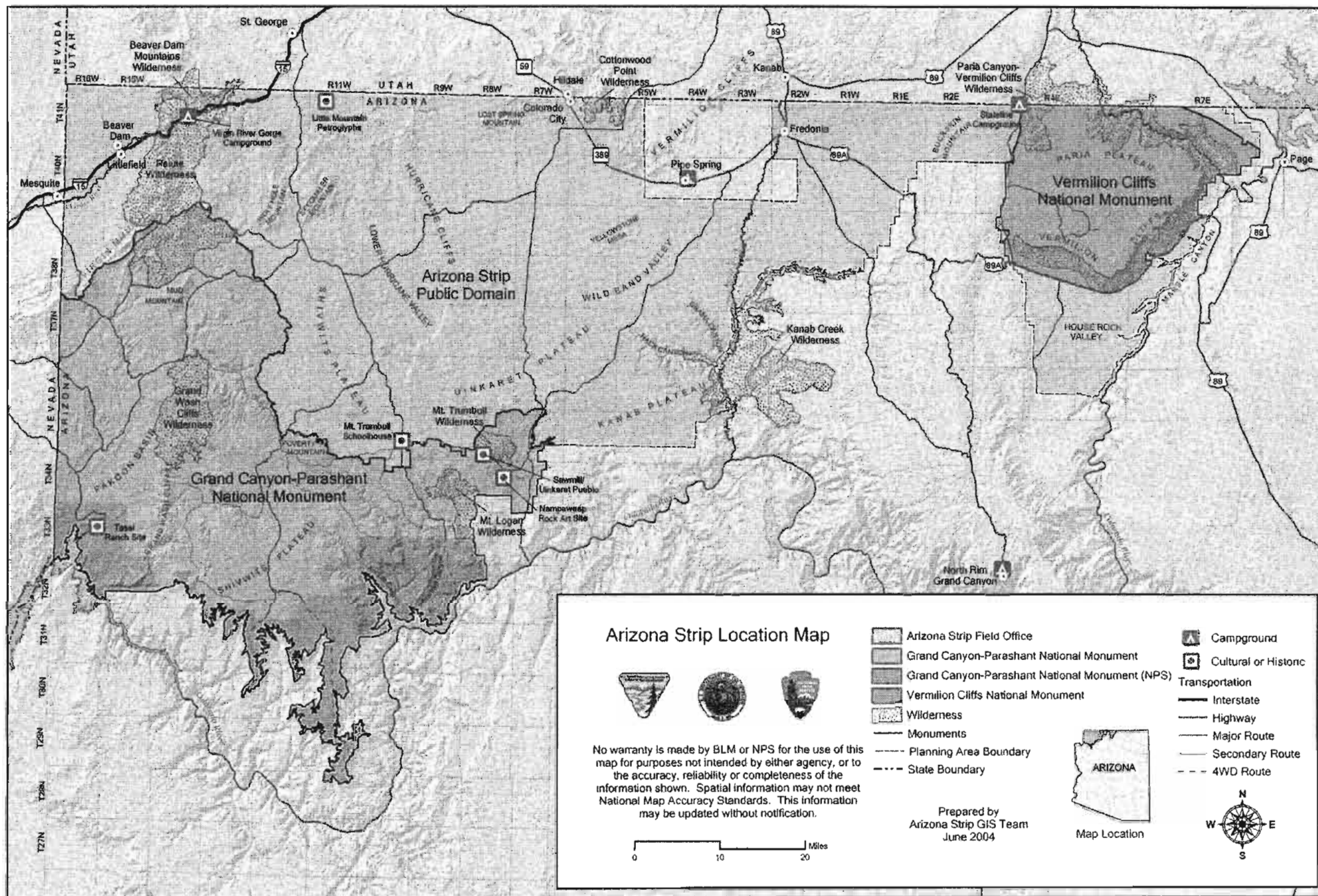
Carlos Sierra
5353 North 16th Street, Suite 105
Phoenix, Arizona 85016



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL
PARK
SERVICE

ARIZONA STRIP PROPOSED PLAN FINAL EIS

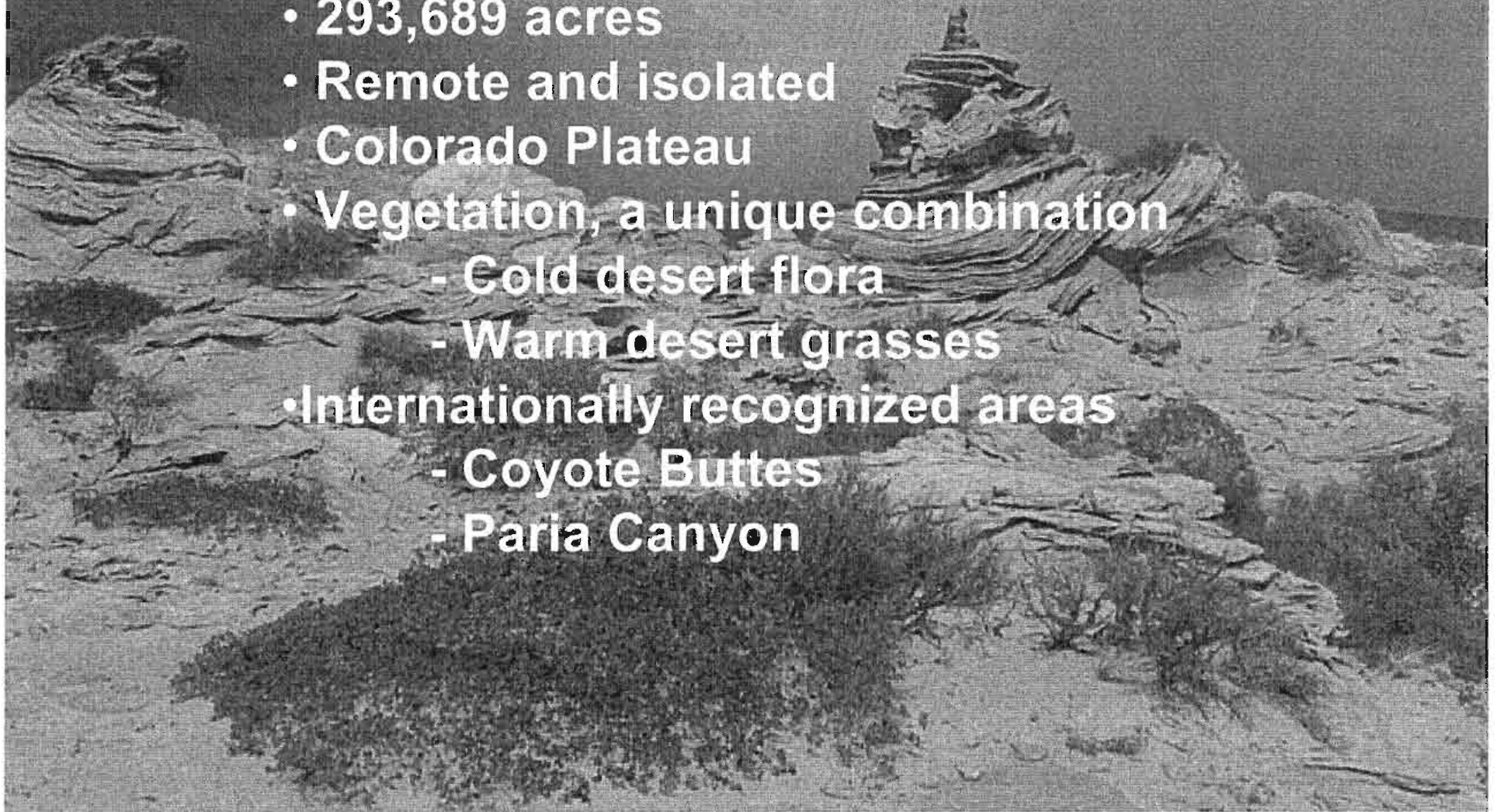



GRAND CANYON-PARASHANT NATIONAL MONUMENT

- Jointly administered by BLM and NPS
 - “Seamless Management”
- Interim Management
- 1.048 million acres
 - 800,000 acres BLM
 - 200,000 acres NPS
- Remote, isolated
- Highly diverse ecosystems
 - 1,200 feet to 8,000 feet
 - Mojave Desert
 - Ponderosa pine and pinyon-juniper forests
- Conjunction of 2 geophysical provinces
 - Colorado Plateau and Basin and Range

VERMILION CLIFFS NATIONAL MONUMENT

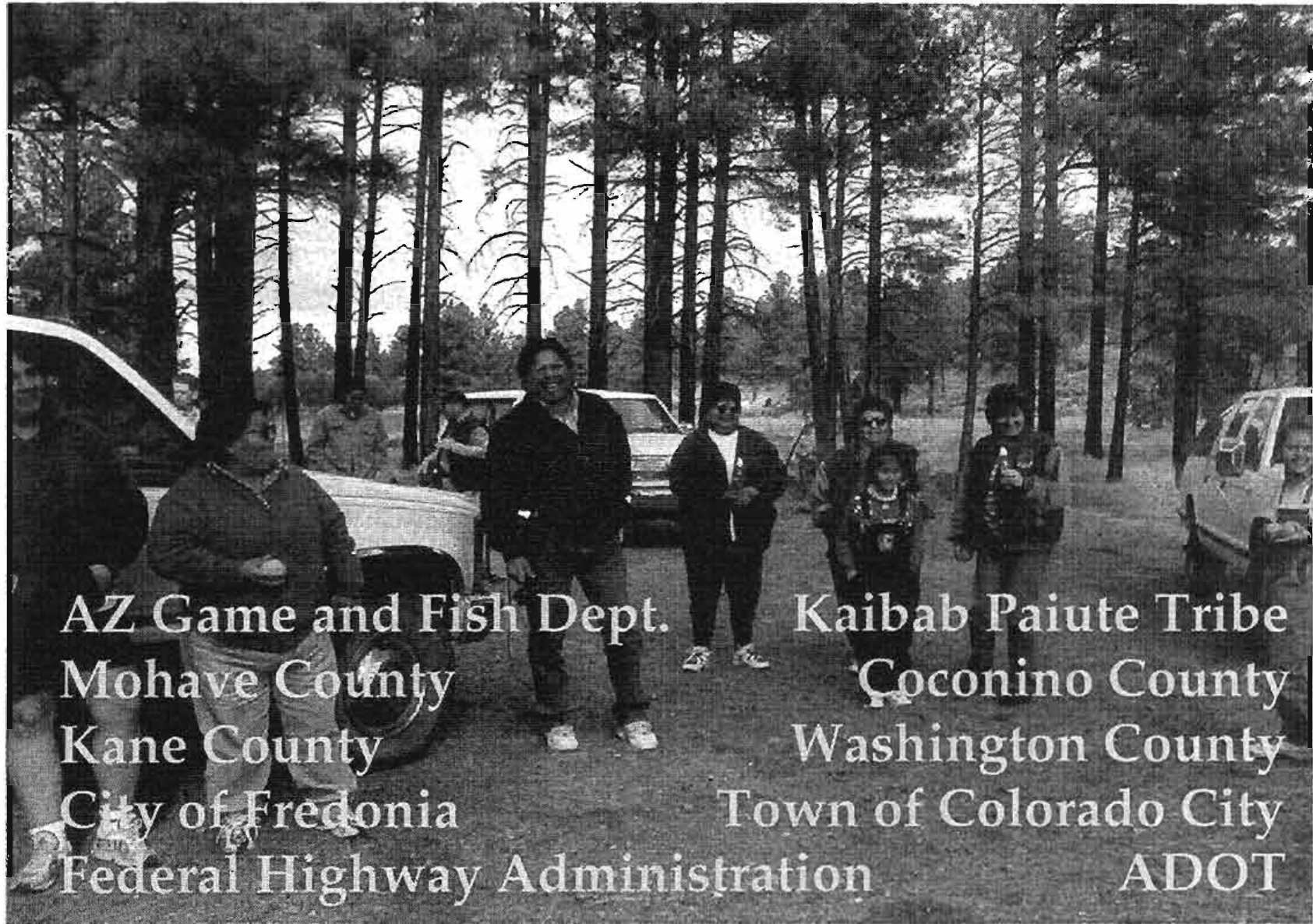
- Administered solely by BLM
- Interim Management
- 293,689 acres
- Remote and isolated
- Colorado Plateau
- Vegetation, a unique combination
 - Cold desert flora
 - Warm desert grasses
- Internationally recognized areas
 - Coyote Buttes
 - Paria Canyon



- 
- Revision of 1992 RMP
 - **Mojave Desert Amendment 1998**
 - 1.9 million acres
 - Multiple Use
 - Minerals
 - Land Disposals
 - Northern – near highways and communities
 - Southern and Eastern – Remote, isolated

Arizona Strip Field Office

Cooperating Agencies



Public Meetings on Arizona Strip EIS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u># Meetings</u>	<u>Attendees</u>
2002	Scoping # of comments = 2,219	10	444
2003	Alternatives # of comments = 6,272	5	349
2006	Draft EIS # of comments = 10,521	8	359

5/29/2002

Public Concerns on Draft Plan

Access

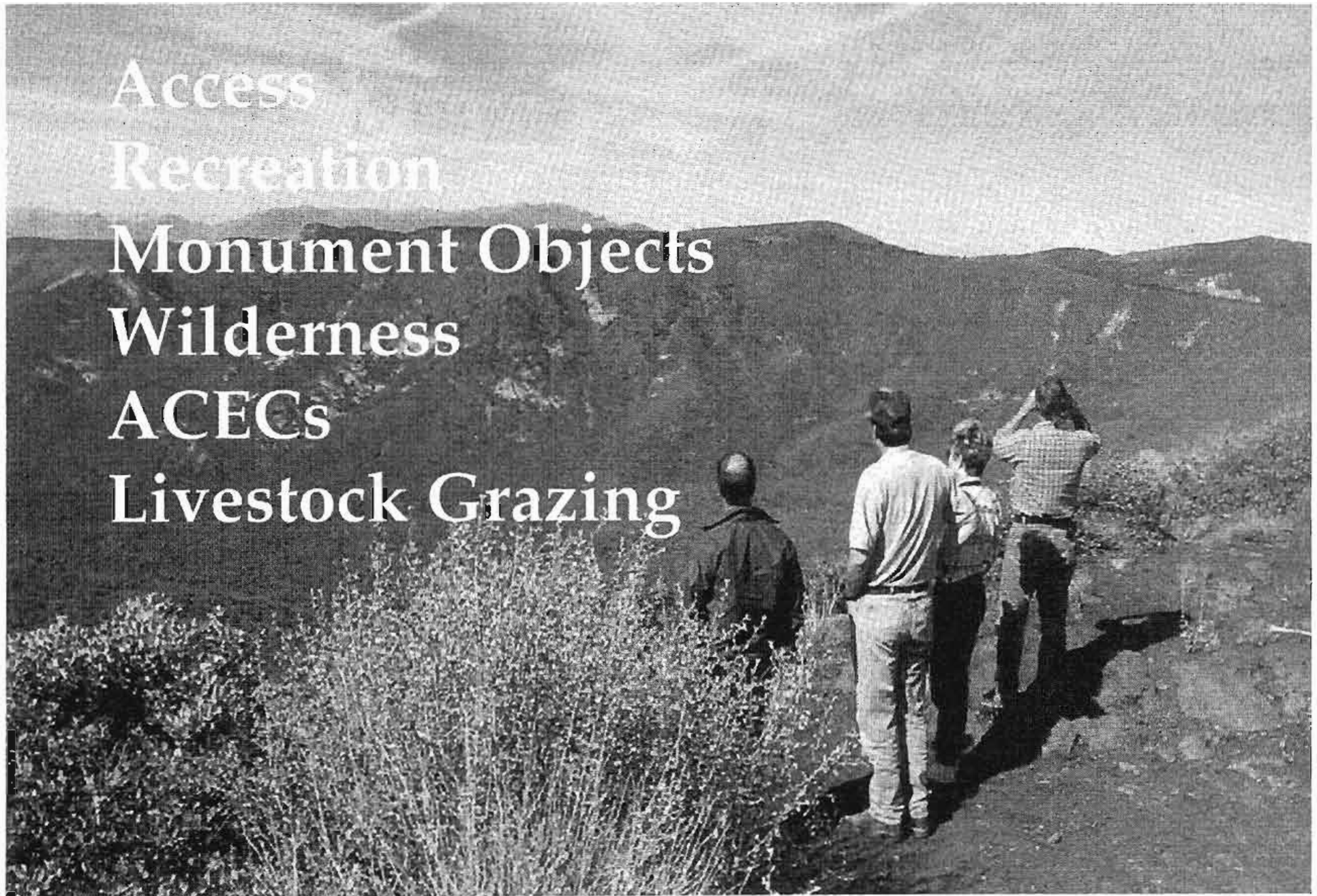
Recreation

Monument Objects

Wilderness

ACECs

Livestock Grazing



Alternative Concepts

- Alternative A, No Action
 - Includes Proclamations
 - Includes Interim Management
- Alternative B - D
- Alternative E, Proposed Plan and NPS Environmentally Preferred Alternative



Areas of Major Change from DEIS to FEIS

- OHV Open Area Designation and Routes
- Wilderness Characteristics (NPS)
- ACECs
- Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes
- Livestock Grazing
- Land Disposals

OHV Open Area Designation Changes

<u>Alt A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
Fredonia		
803 acres	952 acres	348 acres
St. George Basin		
0 acres	6,229 acres	628 acres
TOTAL	7,181 acres	976 acres

Route Designations

Parashant

<u>Alt A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
Open		
1,690 miles (94%)	1,403 miles (78%)	1,406 miles (78%)
Limited Use		
36 miles (2%)	206 miles (12%)	217 miles (12%)
Closed and Rehabilitated		
59 miles (4%)	176 miles (10%)	181 miles (10%)

Route Designations Vermilion

<u>Alt A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
Open		
445 miles (79%)	382 miles (68%)	377 miles (67%)
Limited Use		
13 miles (2.3%)	73 miles (13%)	71 miles (12.6%)
Closed and Rehabilitated		
104 miles (18.5%)	107 miles (19%)	114 miles (20%)

Wilderness Characteristics

<u>Alt. A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
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BLM – Monuments

NA	246,582 acres	247,015 acres
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BLM – Arizona Strip FO

NA	34,415 acres	34,415 acres
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Parashant - National Park Service

NA	4,147 acres	5,473 acres
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Areas of Critical Environmental Concern ACECs

<u>Alt A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
9 ACECs	14 ACECs	13 ACECs
127,193 acres	158,398 acres	165,235 acres
(7.5% of ASFO)	(9.4% of ASFO)	(9.8% of ASFO)

Visual Resource Management Designations in Acres

	<u>Alt A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
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Bureau of Land Management

Class I	267,896	265,910	265,796
Class II	1,125,940	1,010,211	1,151,553
Class III	413,041	1,759,045	1,623,728
Class IV	1,307,047	78,821	72,922

National Park Service

Class I	0	192,194	193,520
Class II	0	16,899	15,563
Class III-IV	0	0	0

Forage Reserves – Parashant BLM

Number/Acres

<u>Alt A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
1/53,522	3/131,295	3/114,645

Livestock Grazing–Available Acres

<u>Alt. A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
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Bureau of Land Management

3,069,613	3,051,064	3,027,569
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National Park Service

82,084	82,084	75,949
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Livestock Grazing–Unavailable Acres

<u>Alt. A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
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Bureau of Land Management		
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69,214		
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	87,763	
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		114,667
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National Park Service		
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132,079		
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	132,079	
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		129,853
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Land Disposals (Acres)

<u>Alt A</u>	<u>Preferred Alt.</u>	<u>Proposed Plan</u>
24,194 (1.4%)	25,319 (1.5%)	19,964 (1.1%)

Next Steps - Planning Schedule

September 2006 Washington Office Briefing

- Meetings with Cooperators and interest groups before release of FEIS

January 2007 Proposed Plan/ FEIS to public

Jan-Feb 2007 Protest Period

Late Spring 2007 Resolve Protests

Summer 2007 Records of Decision (4)

- 3 RODs for BLM and 1 ROD for NPS

Fall 2007 Management/Implementation Plans (3)

- Grand Canyon-Parashant NM Plan
- Vermilion Cliffs NM Plan
- Arizona Strip FO RMP Revision

